

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES**  
**FREDERICK SENIOR CENTER**  
**January 11, 2010**

<b>DOA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DOA STAFF</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Rae Ann Butler	Susan M. Ramsburg Recording Sec	Earl S. Beck, PhD	Harold A. Ehart, Jr., Chair	Jim Judd
David Gray, Comm	Carolyn True	Cristina Donahue-Taylor		William P. Allen, PhD
Lloyd Hoover		Millard Haines		Belinda Teague-Levy
Ona M. John Kile		Margaret Nusbaum		
Louise Lynch		Stephen Wilhide		
Burt Shawver				
Virginia Skelley				
Robert Wannemacher				
Carol Krimm, Alderman				

- I. **Call to Order – Louise Lynch, Vice Chair**, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**II. Welcome & Introductions –** Louise Lynch welcomed all attendees. She will be chairing this meeting today. Guests and a candidate for membership were present so introductions were made around the table.

**III. Approval of Minutes –** The minutes of the December 14, 2009 meeting were approved. All were in favor.

**IV. Commissioner's Report –** Commissioner Gray gave no report at today's meeting. Belinda reported that budget workshops are taking place and all comments are welcome.

**Alderman's Report –** Carol Krimm attended today's meeting as the City Alderman liaison. Carol also currently works in the office of Delegate Galen Clagett.

**V. Nominating Committee-Review of Candidates, Earl Beck –** The three candidates being recommended to the BoCC for membership on this Commission are James Judd, Diane Julian, and Patricia McGill. John Kile moved to accept the recommendation and motion was seconded by Ginny Skelley. All approved these nominations. There is still one vacant position that was not advertised. Belinda will check on the status of this position.

**Election of Officers, Earl Beck –** This was postponed until next month's meeting. Louise will continue to act as Chair and RaeAnn Butler will be Vice Chair temporarily.

**USM, All –** Virginia attended the USM monthly meeting which was held last week. The newsletter and other information from that meeting were distributed today. There will be very limited funding in the next state budget and no tax increases are being proposed. The federal stimulus funding is expected to be discontinued. Education is historically the top funded program. The USM foremost goals are to preserve funding for Medicaid and the State Department of Aging. USM also supports legislation that mandates a state wide standardized Power of Attorney document.

Travel to the rally will be provided by the Dept of Aging van. The cost will be \$5 per person and the van will leave from the Frederick Senior Center at 7am on January 19<sup>th</sup> or snow date of January 21<sup>st</sup>. Ginny has tickets to the Rally available at today's meeting if anyone needs one. It was stressed at today's meeting that each commission member should send an email to the Delegates to inform them of the expectation of their attendance on that day. Issues that are of top concern should also be included in the email. Email addresses were provided by Carol Krimm. It was also encouraged that each commission member become an individual member of the USM. Hal,

Louise, and Ginny will continue to reply to emails regarding legislative issues on behalf of for this Commission.

Members are encouraged to attend the legislative hearings and/or the State Commission on Aging meetings. It is possible that carpooling would be available. Contact Louise if you are interested in attending any meetings. The Maryland General Assembly website has a wealth of information on current legislative matters.

**Ideas for Action Steps for 2010, All** – An action plan was sent out prior to today's meeting. Everyone will need to be committed to making a difference in order for the year to be successful. A major goal is to come up with a way to locate seniors who need services and are unable to access them. An informal needs assessment is considered necessary in order to fully comprehend the needs of local seniors. We may want to enlist the help of local college students. Please be well prepared to discuss specific ideas at next month's meeting.

- VI. Meeting dates/times for 2010 CoA Meetings – All** The meeting schedule for next year was discussed. It was agreed that some meetings will take place at the different senior centers this year. The meeting time will be earlier, at 11:00am, in order to meet with seniors who attend the center for lunch. Other meetings will be held at the normal time of 1:00pm. Please see the meeting schedule for time and location. A retreat of Commission members only to discuss the status of the year's goals and accomplishments was suggested for August instead of regular meeting.

- VII. Announcements – All**  
There was a question regarding helping seniors who need help with snow removal or yard maintenance. Seniors are referred to Partner's in Care for these services. Another option may be youth sports leagues or local Girl Scout/Boy Scout groups.

There is still a MOW need in various areas. There is no formal program available in the Middletown area. The meals could be obtained from the Frederick County Detention Center but distribution would be the issue. Rae Ann will contact a local church and make inquiries for potential assistance.

The Friends of MOW has a pro bono accountant who is helping with necessary paperwork. The EIN# has been obtained and the group will be setting up a bank account. They also have a graphic artist who will be creating a logo for the group. A website is also being created with the help of David Wingate's office.

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VITA will be at the Frederick Senior Center starting February 1. Appointments are available Monday through Friday. Free tax services are available for most seniors age 60 and older with an income of \$49,000 or less per year.

**Director's Report, Carolyn True** – Carolyn distributed the statistical report for the DoA for December, 2009. This report gives a breakdown of what each of the programs has accomplished for the month. Most programs continue to have an increase in the number of clients served. There will be a cut in funding for the Information and Assistance which is the foundation of our department, but a request to transfer funds from another grant has been made to the MDoA and is pending. We continue to appreciate the BoCC and their on-going support of this department.

“Santas for Seniors” had a successful outcome again this year. Senior and other local organizations partner to reach out to seniors who may not otherwise receive holiday gifts. The number of seniors served increased significantly this year.

Medicare D open enrollment period is over. Numerous seniors met with staff or volunteers to review their prescription coverage options. Insurance companies sometimes change their deductibles and/or premiums so a yearly check is beneficial for most seniors.

A Memorandum of Understanding is now in place for the Thurmont Senior Center. It was effective 1/2010. It outlines the duties and responsibilities of the Town and the DoA. This has been a lengthy process and everyone is happy with the outcome.

**VIII. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg,  
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

February 8, 2010 - Commission on Aging, 1 pm at the Frederick Senior Center, Frederick, MD 21702

February 23, 2010 COA Executive Meeting, 1:00 pm at the Frederick Senior Center